



Press Release
For Immediate Release

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“SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE NATIONAL MALL”
Grand Opening Set for November 24

November 21, 2005 - Washington, DC - Garden railway trains are already transporting our visitors' imaginations around a replica of the National Mall. But with December fast approaching, fall chrysanthemums have given way to a bounty of colorful poinsettias and other holiday blooming plants, and the enchanting replicas of the U.S. Capitol, Washington Monument, U.S. Botanic Garden Conservatory, and other Mall landmarks have now been joined by townhouses of Capitol Hill and Ford's Theatre. All constructed of natural materials such as willow, acorns, leaves, and bark, the buildings are the work of renowned garden railway designer Paul Busse of Applied Imagination. Another garden railway is being added outside in the Children's Garden in time for the grand opening of the USBG holiday exhibit on Thanksgiving Day, November 24. The exhibit will remain on display through January 8.

The U.S. Botanic Garden Conservatory is open to the public, free of charge, every day of the year from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. During the holiday season, there will be **extended hours**, from **10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, on three Thursday evenings only – **December 15, 22, and 29** – when there will be free, **live holiday music** performances from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The Conservatory is located at 100 Maryland Avenue, SW, at the foot of the U.S. Capitol. Visitors are encouraged to take Metrobus and Metrorail. Further information is available by calling 202-225-8333 or visiting our website at www.usbg.gov.

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